DEFAULT DECISION AND ORDER

## **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

- 1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Jeremy Miller has subjected his application for a Registered Nurse License to denial.
- 2. Service of Statement of Issues No. 2013-2 and related documents was proper and in accordance with the law.
  - 3. The agency has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.
- 4. The Board of Registered Nursing is authorized to deny Respondent's application for licensure based upon the following violations alleged in the Statement of Issues:
- a. Respondent's application is subject to denial under sections 480, subdivisions (a)(1) and (a)(3)(B) of the Code in that on or about November 28, 2006, in a criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California vs. Jeremy Robert Miller*, in Orange County Superior Court, Case Number 06CM10677, Respondent was convicted on his plea of guilty of violating Vehicle Code (VC) section 23152, subdivision (a), driving under the influence of alcohol (DUI), a misdemeanor, with an enhancement under VC section 23578, for having a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) greater than .15 percent, a crime substantially related to the qualifications, duties, and functions of a registered nurse. Said conviction would be a ground for discipline under section 2761, subdivision (f) of the Code for a licensed registered nurse;
- b. Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code section 480, subdivisions (a)(1) and (a)(3)(B) of the Code in that On or about July 6, 2007, in a criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California vs. Jeremy Robert Miller*, in Orange County Superior Court, Case Number 07CM07194, Respondent was convicted on his plea of guilty of violating VC section 23152, subdivision (a), driving under the influence of alcohol (DUI), and VC section 23152, subdivision (b), driving with a BAC over .08 percent, misdemeanors, with an enhancement under VC section 23538, subdivision (b)(2), for having a BAC greater than .20 percent or more, a crime substantially related to the qualifications, duties, and functions of a registered nurse. Said conviction would be a ground for discipline under section 2761, subdivision (f) of the Code for a licensed registered nurse;

# <u>ORDER</u>

IT IS SO ORDERED that the application for Registered Nurse License, filed by Respondent Jeremy Robert Miller, is denied.

Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on within seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent. The agency in its discretion may vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the statute.

This Decision shall become effective on Hannay 11, 2013

It is so ORDERED December 13, 2012.

FOR THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Attachment:

Exhibit A: Statement of Issues

16 70608809.DOC

DOJ Matter ID: SD2012703054

# Exhibit A

Statement of Issues

1	KAMALA D. HARRIS		
2	Attorney General of California ALFREDO TERRAZAS		
3	Senior Assistant Attorney General LINDA K. SCHNEIDER		
4	Supervising Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 101336		
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8	Attorneys for Complainant		
9	BEFORE THE		
10	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
11	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
12	In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against: Case No. 2013 - 2  JEREMY ROBERT MILLER		
13	Registered Nurse License Applicant STATEMENT OF ISSUES		
14	Respondent.		
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16	Complainant alleges:		
17	PARTIES		
18	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) brings this Statement of Issues solely		
19	in her official capacity as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing,		
20	Department of Consumer Affairs.		
21	2. On or about November 8, 2011, the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of		
22	Consumer Affairs received an application for a Registered Nurse License from Jeremy Robert		
23	Miller (Respondent). On or about November 3, 2011, Jeremy Robert Miller certified under		
24	penalty of perjury to the truthfulness of all statements, answers, and representations in the		
25	application. The Board denied the application on December 30, 2011.		
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3. This Statement of Issues is brought before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.

4. Section 2736 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may deny a license when it finds that the applicant has committed any acts constituting grounds for denial of licensure under section 480 of that Code.

#### STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 5. Section 475 of the Code states:
- (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this code, the provisions of this division shall govern the denial of licenses on the grounds of:
- (1) Knowingly making a false statement of material fact, or knowingly omitting to state a material fact, in an application for a license.
  - (2) Conviction of a crime.
- (3) Commission of any act involving dishonesty, fraud or deceit with the intent to substantially benefit himself or another, or substantially injure another.
- (4) Commission of any act which, if done by a licentiate of the business or profession in question, would be grounds for suspension or revocation of license.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this code, the provisions of this division shall govern the suspension and revocation of licenses on grounds specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a).
- (c) A license shall not be denied, suspended, or revoked on the grounds of a lack of good moral character or any similar ground relating to an applicant's character, reputation, personality, or habits.
- 6. Section 480 of the Code states:
- (a) A board may deny a license regulated by this code on the grounds that the applicant has one of the following:
- (1) Been convicted of a crime. A conviction within the meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere. Any action that a board is permitted to take following the establishment of a conviction may be taken when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code.

- (2) Done any act involving dishonesty, fraud, or deceit with the intent to substantially benefit himself or herself or another, or substantially injure another.
- (3) (A) Done any act that if done by a licentiate of the business or profession in question, would be grounds for suspension or revocation of license.
- (B) The board may deny a license pursuant to this subdivision only if the crime or act is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which application is made.

#### 7. Section 482 of the Code states:

Each board under the provisions of this code shall develop criteria to evaluate the rehabilitation of a person when:

- (a) Considering the denial of a license by the board under Section 480; or
- (b) Considering suspension or revocation of a license under Section 490.

Each board shall take into account all competent evidence of rehabilitation furnished by the applicant or licensee.

#### 8. Section 493 of the Code states:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in a proceeding conducted by a board within the department pursuant to law to deny an application for a license or to suspend or revoke a license or otherwise take disciplinary action against a person who holds a license, upon the ground that the applicant or the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question, the record of conviction of the crime shall be conclusive evidence of the fact that the conviction occurred, but only of that fact, and the board may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime in order to fix the degree of discipline or to determine if the conviction is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of the licensee in question.

As used in this section, "license" includes "certificate," "permit," "authority," and "registration."

## 9. Section 2761 of the Code states:

The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(f) Conviction of a felony or of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered nurse, in which event the record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof.

#### 10. Section 2762 of the Code states:

In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act], it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

- (a) Obtain or possess in violation of law, or prescribe, or except as directed by a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, or podiatrist administer to himself or herself, or furnish or administer to another, any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022.
- (b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.
- (c) Be convicted of a criminal offense involving the prescription, consumption, or self-administration of any of the substances described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this section, or the possession of, or falsification of a record pertaining to, the substances described in subdivision (a) of this section, in which event the record of the conviction is conclusive evidence thereof.

#### REGULATORY PROVISIONS

# 11. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444 states:

A conviction or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences the present or potential unfitness of a registered nurse to practice in manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare. Such convictions or acts shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (a) Assaultive or abusive conduct including, but not limited to, those violations listed in subdivision (d) of Penal Code Section 11160.
  - (b) Failure to comply with any mandatory reporting requirements.
  - (c) Theft, dishonesty, fraud, or deceit.
- (d) Any conviction or act subject to an order of registration pursuant to Section 290 of the Penal Code.

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- 12. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1445 states:
- (a) When considering the denial of a license under Section 480 of the code, the board, in evaluating the rehabilitation of the applicant and his/her present eligibility for a license will consider the following criteria:
- (1) The nature and severity of the act(s) or crime(s) under consideration as grounds for denial.
- (2) Evidence of any act(s) committed subsequent to the act(s) or crime(s) under consideration as grounds for denial which also could be considered as grounds for denial under Section 480 of the code.
- (3) The time that has elapsed since commission of the act(s) or crime(s) referred to in subdivision (1) or (2).
- (4) The extent to which the applicant has complied with any terms of parole, probation, restitution, or any other sanctions lawfully imposed against the applicant.
  - (5) Evidence, if any, of rehabilitation submitted by the applicant.

# FIRST CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

(Nov. 28, 2006 Criminal Conviction for Driving Under the Influence on Aug. 24, 2006)

- 13. Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code section 480, subdivisions (a)(1) and (a)(3)(B) in that he was convicted of a crime that is substantially related to the qualifications, duties, and functions of a registered nurse, which would be grounds for discipline for a registered nurse under Code section 2761, subdivision (f). The circumstances are as follows:
- a. On or about November 28, 2006, in a criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California vs. Jeremy Robert Miller*, in Orange County Superior Court, Case Number 06CM10677, Respondent was convicted on his plea of guilty of violating Vehicle Code (VC) section 23152, subdivision (a), driving under the influence of alcohol (DUI), a misdemeanor, with an enhancement under VC section 23578, for having a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) greater than .15 percent. An additional charge for violation of VC section 23152, subdivision (b), driving with a BAC over .08 percent, a misdemeanor, with an enhancement under VC section 23578, for having a BAC greater than .15 percent, was dismissed as a result of a plea bargain.

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- b. As a result of the conviction, on or about November 28, 2006, Respondent was sentenced to three years informal probation and ordered to pay \$1,610.50 in fines, fees, and restitution. Respondent was also ordered to enroll in and complete a six-month Level 2 First Offender Alcohol Program, the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Victim's Impact Panel Program, and a Youthful Drug and Alcohol deterrence program. On or about June 22, 2007, Respondent's probation was revoked following a DUI arrest on May 4, 2007. On or about July 6, 2007, Respondent was found to be in violation of probation. As a result of the violation, Respondent's informal probation was re-activated and he was ordered to enroll in and complete an 18-month Multiple Offender Alcohol Program to run concurrent with the sentence in Case Number 07CM07194, as detailed in paragraph 14, below.
- c. The facts that led to the conviction are that on or about August 24, 2006, Respondent was found passed out in the driver seat of a stopped vehicle, in neutral with its engine running and headlights and radio on, blocking a roadway and driveway in Santa Ana, California. A responding deputy from the Orange County Sheriff's Department contacted Respondent and noticed a strong odor of alcohol and it took him several attempts to wake Respondent. Respondent's speech was slurred, he swayed, and his eyes lacked smooth pursuit. Respondent had difficulty following instructions and performed poorly in the field sobriety tests. Two blood tests were conducted following Respondent's arrest with results of .191 percent and .192 percent BAC.

# SECOND CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

(July 6, 2007 Criminal Convictions for DUI on May 4, 2007)

- 14. Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code section 480, subdivisions (a)(1) and (a)(3)(B) in that he was convicted of crimes that are substantially related to the qualifications, duties, and functions of a registered nurse, which would be grounds for discipline for a registered nurse under Code section 2761, subdivision (f). The circumstances are as follows:
- a. On or about July 6, 2007, in a criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California vs. Jeremy Robert Miller*, in Orange County Superior Court, Case Number

 07CM07194, Respondent was convicted on his plea of guilty of violating VC section 23152, subdivision (a), driving under the influence of alcohol (DUI), and VC section 23152, subdivision (b), driving with a BAC over .08 percent, misdemeanors, with an enhancement under VC section 23538, subdivision (b)(2), for having a BAC greater than .20 percent or more.

- b. As a result of the convictions, Respondent was sentenced to informal probation for five years and ordered to serve 60 days at the Theo Lacy Jail. Respondent was also ordered to attend and successfully complete a MADD Victim's Impact Panel program and an 18-month Multiple Offender Alcohol Program to run concurrent with the alcohol program in case number 06CM10677, detailed in paragraph 13, above. Respondent was also ordered to pay \$1,645.50 in fines, fees, and restitution.
- c. The facts that led to the convictions are that on or about May 4, 2007, Respondent was reported as a possible drunk driver because the car he drove was weaving on a roadway in Orange, California. A responding officer from Orange Police Department (OPD) found Respondent passed out in the driver seat of a parked vehicle, in neutral with the engine running. As the responding Officer opened the unlocked driver's side door to check on the driver, the Officer immediately smelled alcohol coming from the driver, later identified through a driver's license as Respondent. Respondent had bloodshot and watery eyes, slurred speech, and an unsteady gait. After being sure that Respondent did not need medical attention but was instead displaying objective symptoms of a person under influence of alcohol, the Officer demonstrated and administered a series of field sobriety tests. Respondent performed poorly, was arrested for DUI, and was transported to OPD. A breath test was administered, which returned results of .23 percent BAC on two attempts.

# THIRD CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

(Act If Done By Licentiate - Dangerous Use Of Alcohol)

15. Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code section 480, subdivision (a)(3)(A) in that on or about August 24, 2006 and May 4, 2007, Respondent used alcoholic beverages to an extent or in a manner that was dangerous and injurious to himself and the public when he operated a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, as detailed in paragraphs

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13 and 14, above, which subjects a licensed registered nurse to discipline under Code section 2762, subdivision (b).

# FOURTH CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

(Act If Done By Licentiate - Conviction Of Alcohol-Related Offenses)

16. Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code section 480, subdivision (a)(3)(A) in that on or about November 28, 2006 and July 6, 2007, Respondent was convicted of criminal offenses involving the consumption of alcohol as detailed in paragraphs 13 and 14, above, which subjects a licensed registered nurse to discipline under Code sections 2762, subdivision (c), and 2761, subdivision (f).

#### **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

Denying the application of Jeremy Robert Miller for a Registered Nurse License; 1.

2. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

Interim Executive Officer Board of Registered Nursing

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant

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